CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An oxygen-absorbing composition comprising 100 parts by weight of a carrier and an easily oxidizable organic composition carried on the carrier in an amount exceeding 210 parts by weight, the carrier being a granulate of a calcium silicate compound represented by the following formula:

$$CaO \cdot mSiO_2 \cdot nH_2O$$

wherein m is a number from 1.6 to 6.5 and n is a positive number; and the carrier having crystal structures constituted by aggregate of curved plate crystals comprising gyrolite calcium silicate and amorphous silicon dioxide.

2. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to Claim 1, wherein the easily oxidizable organic composition is carried on the carrier in an amount exceeding 240 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the carrier.

3. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the carrier is a granulate prepared by granulating a mixture comprising 100 parts by weight of the calcium silicate compound and 0.01 to 20 parts by weight of a binder.

4. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the carrier is a granulate prepared by granulating a mixture comprising 100 parts by weight of the calcium silicate compound, 10 to 150 parts by weight of activated carbon and 0.01 to 20 parts by weight of a binder.

5. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to Claim 3 or 4, wherein the binder is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of poly(vinyl alcohol), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(acrylic acid), polyurethane, methylcellulose, ethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, guar gum, xanthan gum, tragacanth gum, carageenan, and sodium alginate.

6. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, wherein n is from 1.0 to 1.5.

7. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 6,

wherein the easily oxidizable organic composition comprises an easily oxidizable organic compound, an additive for putting the easily oxidizable organic compound in chemically easily oxidizable conditions and/or water.

8. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to Claim 7, wherein the easily oxidizable organic compound is at least one organic compound selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, salts of ascorbic acid, erythorbic acid, salts of erythorbic acid, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, glycerol, glucose, xylose, xylitol, mannitol, sorbitol, catechol, resorcinol, hydroquinone, gallic acid, pyrogallol, tocopherol, vegetable oils, fish oils, tall oil, unsaturated fatty acids derived from vegetable oils, unsaturated fatty acids derived from fish oils, unsaturated fatty acids derived from tall oil, butadiene oligomers, and isoprene oligomers.

9. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to Claim 7 or 8, wherein the additive is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of alkali metal compounds, alkaline earth metal compounds, iron slats, manganese salts, copper salts, cobalt salts, carbonates, and hydrogen carbonates.

10. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to any one of Claims 7 to 9, wherein the easily oxidizable organic composition comprises 100 parts by weight of ascorbic acid or its slat, 60 to 200 parts by weight of water, 1 to 35 parts by weight of an alkali agent, and 5 to 30 parts by weight of a transition metal salt catalyst.

11. The oxygen-absorbing composition according to any one of Claims 7 to 9, wherein the easily oxidizable organic composition comprises 100 parts by weight of the polyhydric alcohol, 15 to 115 parts by weight of water, and 3 to 6 parts by weight of the transition metal salt catalyst

12. An oxygen-absorbing package comprising the oxygen-absorbing composition as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 10 packed by a gas-permeable packaging material.